



STATE OF INDIANA

Mitchell E. Daniels Jr., Governor

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
Minority and Women's Enterprises Division

Indiana Government Center South
402 West Washington Street, Room W469
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 232 - 3061

Media release For Immediate Release

Indiana Department of Administration receives \$600,000 grant to create Minority Business Enterprise Center

INDIANAPOLIS (March 21, 2007) – The Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA) announced yesterday afternoon that it has received a U.S. Department of Commerce three-year, \$600,000 grant for the creation of a Minority Business Enterprise Center (MBEC).

The Center will provide high-quality strategic business consulting services to Indiana Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) with \$500,000 or more in annual revenues, and other rapid growth firms capable of generating significant employment and long-term economic growth. MBEC services will be based on the Dartmouth College Tuck School of Business MBE model, which fosters the growth, expansion, and competitiveness of minority business enterprises by assuring access to credit, capital, markets, and other resources.

“The Center will serve as a resource to minority firms across Indiana that seek to expand their business within both the public and private sectors,” said Claudia Cummings, IDOA Deputy Commissioner overseeing the state’s Minority and Women’s Business Enterprises Division. “Helping these businesses expand is good for both the minority business community and for anyone supportive of economic development efforts in Indiana.”

MBEC consultants will provide assistance to minority business enterprises in the areas of law, financing, procurement, operations, planning, management, and marketing. The Center will begin serving clients later this month.

Consulting services will be provided to Indiana companies through a state contract with eGlobal Consulting, Inc., an Indiana-based Women’s Business Enterprise that has recently worked with the Flagship Enterprise Center, a business incubator located in Anderson. The majority of the contract’s funding will come from the Department of Commerce grant; consulting fees paid by the Center’s clients will also help fund the eGlobal contract.

With this grant, Indiana will join a number of other states, including Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois, that provide Minority Business Enterprise Center services to a growing minority business community.

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Media Contacts

Minority Business Enterprise Center: Reppard Horne - (317) 234-5223

Indiana Department of Administration: Elizabeth Barrett - (317) 232-2375